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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 08/858,116 | 05/19/1997 | TETSUYA MIZUSUGI | 8373.52USF2 | 4991 |

23552 7590 04/01/2003

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EXAMINER

VINCENT, SEAN E

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
|----------|--------------|

1731

DATE MAILED: 04/01/2003

43

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/858,116

Applicant(s)

MIZUSUGI ET AL.

Examiner

Sean E Vincent

Art Unit

1731

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 January 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 5-8 and 10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 June 1994 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
2. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).
3. Claims 5-8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seymour (US 3846104) in view of Seymour (US 4229200).
4. Seymour '104 taught methods of shaping heated sheets of glass including placing a heated sheet of glass on a lower "outline shaping mold" while an upper vacuum shaping mold is held in an upper position, lowering the upper vacuum mold towards the glass sheet, raising the lower outline mold with the sheet towards the upper vacuum mold, drawing a vacuum in the upper vacuum mold to form the glass sheet against the upper vacuum mold covered with a stretchable fiber glass fabric, moving a tempering ring under the glass sheet held on the upper vacuum mold, releasing the glass sheet from the vacuum mold onto the tempering ring, and moving the bend glass on the tempering ring to a tempering step (see col. 5, lines 39-53; col. 6, lines 4-58 and 7-75; col. 10, line 32 to col. 11, line 26 and the figures). Seymour '104 does not

teach developing first and second vacuums in first and second vacuum chambers of the upper vacuum mold to mold the glass sheet in two stages.

5. Seymour '200 taught similar processes wherein a vacuum platen is flanked by curved shaping blocks and vacuum is developed first in the platen, then in the curved shaping blocks (see col. 11, line 57 to col. 12, line 31). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the upper vacuum mold of Seymour '104 with the platen and blocks of Seymour '200 because Seymour '200 taught that a "relatively deep bend" was more attainable in the side portions of the glass sheet.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed January 28, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

7. In response to the argument that Claim 10 contains no lower mold or sandwiching of upper and lower molds as disclosed by Seymour '104 and '200, the examiner disagrees. Claim 10 states placing the sheet of glass on a **ring mold** and lowering the suction mold **toward said ring mold**. It is the position of the examiner that this reads on "sandwiching" the glass sheet between the molds.

8. In response to the argument that the Seymour patents are directed to a different concept than the present invention, the examiner disagrees. Given the broadest possible interpretation, applicant's claims are not considered to exclude methods which include simultaneous vacuum application to the upper mold and pressure application between the upper and lower molds, as taught by Seymour '104.

9. In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986). Seymour '104 does not shape the glass sheet subsequent to the vacuum application across the shaping surface of the upper mold. Seymour '200 is relied upon for the use of an upper mold with two suction chambers within the method of Seymour '104.

Conclusion

10. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

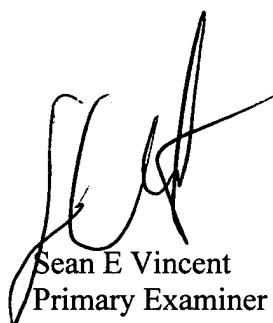
11. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sean E Vincent whose telephone number is 703-305-3607. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F (8:30 - 6:00) Second Monday Off.

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13. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven P Griffin can be reached on 703-308-1164. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9310 for regular communications and 703-872-9311 for After Final communications.

14. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0651.



Sean E Vincent
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1731

S Vincent
March 31, 2003